

## INACTION AND OVERREACTION

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 20, 2008*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, depending on what day it is, the House Democrat energy policy can be described one of two ways—either inaction or overreaction. On the one hand, with gas prices over 4 dollars per gallon and a growing global demand for oil, House Democrats refuse to lift the moratoriums against exploring for new oil and natural gas reserves here in the United States. On the other hand, having now failed to lower gas prices by doing nothing, we hear Members of the majority saying we should nationalize the American oil industry. Since when did the United States start following the example of socialist regimes like that of unstable Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez?

House Republicans have a plan that will not surrender our freedom and innovative spirit to the limits of big government. We want to lift the unnecessary restrictions on energy exploration. We want to invest in alternative energy sources and use the power of the free market to drive innovation forward and energy prices down.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September 11th. I am grateful that World War II veteran, Sergeant William E. Durkes, Sr., is visiting Washington today continuing to celebrate his 92nd birthday.

## TRIBUTE TO MRS. LINDA DAVIS

**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 20, 2008*

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to one of the outstanding residents of the community where I live and enjoy the friendship and fellowship of my neighbors and friends. Madam, I cannot pinpoint exactly when or where I first met Ms. Linda Davis; however, I do recall that we immediately connected and soon were communicating and working together on various issues and projects.

Linda Davis had an outstanding personality which was infectious. She could be warm and disarming but at the same time tough and intimidating. She was energetic and in addition to looking after her home and family, she was a regular attendee at community meetings and events. Mrs. Davis was involved with her block and immediate neighborhood; I was privileged to attend meetings and coffees in her home. She worked with the Community Bank of Lawndale, the Austin Bank of Chicago, the Chicago Board of Education and Loretto Hospital as well with the Austin Chamber of Commerce and many other entities.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to take note of some of the contributions of this noteworthy citizen, a great wife, wonderful mother and superb human being.

## HONORING MARGARET "MAGGIE" TRUPP FOR HER 41 YEARS OF MERITORIOUS SERVICE

**HON. AL GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 20, 2008*

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to honor Margaret "Maggie" Trupp upon the occasion of her retirement following 41 years of meritorious service for Continental Airlines.

Ms. Trupp's life experience truly represents the American Dream. After immigrating to the United States from Holland in 1961 at the age of 16, she attended Dan McCarty High School and Indian River Junior College before moving to my hometown of Houston, Texas, in 1967. Almost immediately, Texas International Airlines, an airline in its infancy, recognized her talents, work ethic and enthusiasm and hired her to help move the company forward. Ms. Trupp has participated in Texas International's growth into Continental Airlines, a major international carrier.

Ms. Trupp achieved great success during her tenure, once receiving the airline's annual customer service award and spearheading its unaccompanied minor system, which has facilitated successful travel for young people. On a personal note, she has helped me numerous times over the years in my travel experiences and has always shown me tremendous generosity and kindness.

Ms. Trupp will officially retire effective July 1, 2008, bringing her impressive and successful career to a close. I would like to congratulate her for her decades of excellent work and to wish her a happy and fulfilling retirement.

## COMMENDING REEVE FIDLER OF GROTON

**HON. NIKI TSONGAS**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 20, 2008*

Ms. TSONGAS. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Reeve Fidler of Groton, Massachusetts, who will receive the Congressional Award bronze, silver and gold medals. It is my privilege to honor Reeve who has worked to better himself and his community.

The Congressional Award recognizes initiative, achievement, and service in young people. Reeve exemplifies all of these qualities. The award's recipients represent the best of America—they are committed to self-improvement, hard work, and community service.

Reeve performed over 400 hours of community service, managing the snack shack at his town's athletic fields. The profits he earned selling concessions went to fund the town's youth soccer program. Reeve also volunteered as a teacher's aide at the Groton Children's Center.

In addition to helping his community, Reeve set personal development goals. He received certification to become a soccer referee and subsequently worked as an official for youth games in his town. To complete the physical fitness goal, Reeve played for his high school's varsity tennis team, and for his expedition requirement, Reeve explored the coast of southern Maine.

It is also important to acknowledge that Reeve and the other extraordinary young people receiving the Congressional Award were not alone in their work to achieve their goals. Along the way, they were guided by the helping hands of parents, teachers, and mentors, who provided constant encouragement and support.

Today, I honor Reeve's hard work and dedication. His dedication to community service and personal development should be admired and emulated.

## HONORING SAINT JAMES PARISH

**HON. DALE E. KILDEE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 20, 2008*

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Saint James Parish in Bay City as they dedicate the new parish center, Langley Hall. Bishop Robert J. Carlson will preside over the dedication ceremony on Sunday, June 22, in Bay City, Michigan.

Reverend Henry Schutjes founded Saint James Parish in 1868 in response to the needs of a growing Irish community. The parish quickly became the center of life for the Irish settlers in the Bay City area. In 1873 the new pastor, Reverend Thomas Rafter, welcomed four Sisters of Charity to teach in the parish school. On August 25th of that year, Saint James Parish opened the first 12-grade, coeducational parochial school in the United States. The Sisters of Charity had to send additional teachers as the enrollment grew to 400 students within a month.

Education has always been very important to the parishioners of Saint James. In preparing the next generation for the challenges of life the school has gone through several transformations. The high school is now part of All Saints Central High School and the middle school is part of Holy Family Middle School. Since 1873, the Sisters of Charity have continued to serve Saint James Parish, preparing students for an abundant temporal and spiritual life.

The first wooden church was destroyed by fire in 1884. The second church was struck by lightning and burned in 1978. After each tragedy the parishioners came together and continued a vibrant parish life. They found other places to celebrate Mass and worked to rebuild the sanctuary. The current church was completed in 1980 and the first Mass was celebrated on Christmas Eve. This sacred tradition continues under the leadership of the pastor, Reverend Robert J. DeLand, and associate pastor, Reverend Andrew D. Booms.

On June 22nd the parish will come together again to celebrate the dedication of the new parish center, Langley Hall. The parish center is made possible by the bequest of the late Norbert Langley and Elizabeth Langley. The Langley family exemplifies the best of Saint James Parish life. Their parents, John and Anna Langley, were married at Saint James Catholic Church in 1911. They had five children, all baptized at Saint James, and four children graduated from the parish high school. Elizabeth and Norbert stayed on the family farm and continued to attend Mass at Saint James. Elizabeth passed away in 1998 and Norbert died in 2004. The estate was bequeathed to Saint James, enabling the parish